

### Is Money Scarce?

In view of the prevalent talk of the day concerning the scarcity of money in the United States, the following table, from page 45 of the U. S. mint report, showing the amount of money had by each nation mentioned, is especially interesting:

United States	\$25 00
England	20 00
France	36 00
Germany	19 00
Austria	25 00
Netherlands	26 00
Belgium	9 00
Italy	18 00
Spain	25 00
Portugal	8 00
Russia	6 84
Roumania	2 39
Turkey	24 00
Australia	4 00
Japan (silver)	3 33
India (silver)	2 08
China (silver)	4 71
Mexico (silver)	3 78
Central American states (silver)	17 00
So. Amer. states (silver and paper)	

The only nations that have a greater per capita circulation are France and Belgium. Our free coinage friends have a great deal to say about the prosperity of free coinage Mexico. It will be seen that Mexico has less than one-fifth of the per capita circulation of the United States, and it is in 50-cent dollars at that. So it is evident that the amount of money is not the secret of Mexican prosperity—if, indeed, that country does enjoy a prosperity even equal to our own, which the NORTHERNER does not believe. Statistics of Mexican labor show that the average wages of day laborers in that country is but 12½ to 25 cents per day—scarcely more than enough to pay the cigar bill of the average American working man.

While it may be, and doubtless is true that a larger volume of currency and a greater use of silver on a sound and honest basis would increase our prosperity, a comparison of the volume of our currency with that of the other nations of the world cannot fail to convince the most ardent inflationist that what is now needed is not so much an increase in the amount of money as some means to get into general circulation the money that we already have. There is a great deal of money in the United States; how to get it is the question. We believe the quickest and surest method of getting money into circulation is to enact a new tariff law along the tried and tested lines of protection to American industries.

As to the currency, the NORTHERNER believes a revision of our monetary system advisable; we believe in a wider use of silver as primary money with exactly the same monetary functions as are accorded to gold; but we most emphatically do not believe it a safe policy to inaugurate free coinage of silver at 16 to 1 while there is so great a difference between the bullion value of gold and silver as exists at the present time.

GENERAL Harrison says nothing about the report that he has withdrawn from the presidential race in favor of McKinley. In fact, Mr. Harrison has never yet authorized the statement that he is to be a candidate at all next year. We do not believe he will say so. Neither does it seem probable that he will refuse the honor of a nomination if it is proffered to him. Mr. Harrison is in the race to-day just as much as he has been any of the time. While not seeking or asking the nomination, he will doubtless make the run if the majority of his party's convention demands it. This is a dignified and proper position for the ex-president to take, and will strengthen him in the estimation of the people, in this day of unseemly scrambling and corrupt political methods for the purpose of securing official positions.

Now that the administration threatens to twist the lion's tail, we don't expect to hear our democratic friends say a word about "jingoism." The NORTHERNER would indeed be pleased to see a "vigorous foreign policy" inaugurated, but we believe all the sensational newspaper talk about the possibility of war to be overdrawn and uncalled for. Just at the present time, our Uncle Samuel is an old gentleman of very peaceable inclination and pleasant disposition. It is particularly appropriate, however, that the administration should be

awakened to an energetic foreign policy by a syndicate. That the awakening is by an American instead of a foreign syndicate, is, however, an anomaly.

SOUTH Carolina has no divorce law, and never had, and is unique in this respect among the states of the union. The constitutional convention in that state adopted on Tuesday a section forbidding the granting of divorces for any cause whatever and denying the recognition of divorces granted in other states. This policy is certainly extreme and unwarranted, but on the whole is much preferable to the lax divorce legislation of most of the states. A conservative middle ground, refusing divorce except for the most grievous causes and flagrant violation of marital duties, and uniform legislation on the subject in all of the states would be a great advancement and would throw a needed safeguard around the sanctity of the American home and a wholesome protection about the sacredness of the relationship between husband and wife. Perhaps South Carolina is only the extremist that shall cause the agitation necessary to a proper solution of this important question.

THE Texas legislature, convened in special session by Gov. Culberson, promptly passed a stringent anti-prize fighting law to take immediate effect. This will prevent Corbett and Fitzsimmons from fighting at Dallas. This "sport" is certainly demoralizing in its influences and disgusting in the extreme. If the two big brutes could be gotten together in some out of the way place, away from all spectators, and allowed to maul each other until each was ready to cry "enough," there would be little occasion for mourning. When the athletic, sport-loving portion of the American people discover that prize fighters are not heroes, but only men with their animal natures abnormally developed, the popularity of prize fighting will quickly wane.

THE sentiment of the American people is overwhelmingly in favor of the Cuban insurgents, as against their Spanish oppressors. A real struggle for liberty always strikes a responsive chord and awakens our national sympathy. The United States should be the first nation to recognize the belligerency of the insurgents.

THE September receipts of the treasury exceeded the expenditures. Let us give thanks and advise a little more economy, that the good record may continue.

### She Borrowed Him For Awhile.

A genial Philadelphian, who for obvious reasons does not care to have his name printed on this occasion, secured a parlor car seat on an express train for Reading a few days ago, and as he was about to pass through the gates, was surprised to hear himself accosted in feminine tones with the somewhat startling question, "Please, mister, could I borrow you for awhile?" Looking around, he found two buxom women, who hastily and hesitatingly explained that they were riding on a pass made out in the name of a gentleman and his wife, and as the gentleman was not present they wanted the genial looking citizen to place his bought ticket at the disposal of one lady and take the other one under his wing, while he personated the absent owner of the pass.

"Which is my wife?" he inquired, with an inward quail lest his own absent better half should ever hear the story. "You can take your choice, sir," said the lady in search of an escort, and he promptly did so by tucking the arm of the youngest fair one under his own and leading her into the car. The couple proved to be right jolly traveling companions, and the citizen's only regret in the transaction was due to a fear that the story might leak out and get home ahead of him. But it didn't.—Philadelphia Record.

### Towed by a Devilfish.

HARRY T. Howard, a wealthy citizen of New Orleans, and his servant were fishing in a small boat off Ship Island recently. Spanish mackerel, silver fish and pompano were biting freely. Suddenly a moving mass appeared making toward the small craft. It proved to be a huge devilfish, which fastened its tentacles on the submerged part of the rope holding the small anchor. The monster dragged the boat through the water with lightning speed. A dull pocketknife was the only thing available to cut the rope, and with this Mr. Howard went to work with a will. Finally, after much labor, the last strand was severed, and the great fish made off with the anchor and the balance of the rope.—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

### African Methodist Centennial.

The African Methodist Episcopal Zion church will celebrate its century of existence next year in New York city. The magnitude of the celebration can be judged by the fact that the promoters of it are determined to raise \$100,000 for the purpose. Mr. John C. Dancy, ex-collector of customs for the port of Wilmington, N. C., who was designated by the centennial committee some time ago to raise the money, has just made a tour of the northern states and reports that he is doubly sure of raising the necessary amount.

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